

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06
SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05 /126 W
-----012043Z 115076 /41

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6332
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
ERDA HQ WASHDC
ERDA GERMANTOWN
SECDEF WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: 740TH PLENARY MEETING, MARCH 29, 1977

1. SUMMARY: 740TH PLENARY MEETING WAS HELD MORNING, MARCH 29.
STATEMENTS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS WERE MADE BY CANADA, USSR, FRG,
AND US. END SUMMARY

2. THE 740TH PLENARY MEETING OF CCD CONVENED NORMING,
MARCH 29 WITH US REP (MEYERS) IN CHAIR. CHAIRMAN-OF-THE-DAY
WELCOMED NEW UK REP, AMBASSADOR ASHE, AND INDIAN REP,
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AMBASSADOR GHAREKHAN, ON BEHALF OF CCD.

3. CANADIAN REP (JAY) MADE STATEMENT ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS
(CW) CALLING FOR "CONCRETE MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE VERIFICATION"
OF ANY CW AGREEMENT AND, SAYING IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR
THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT YET ANNOUNCED THEIR CURRENT
NATIONAL POLICIES ON CW TO DO SO. SUPPORTING UK DRAFT AS

"BASIS FOR EXPEDITING OUR WORK ON A CW CONVENTION," CANADIAN REP ACCEPTED UK FORMULATION OF PHASED COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH, PROVISIONS ON SCOPE AND DEFINITION OF EXCLUSIONS, INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION OF DESTRUCTION OR CONVERSION ACTIVITIES, AND VERIFICATION, BUT SAID THAT MORE DETAILED PROVISIONS WITH RESPECT TO VERIFICATION MAY BE DESIRABLE. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED NECESSITY OF CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES TO "SUSTAIN THE PROLONGED NEGOTIATIONS. PARAPHRASING SOLON IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS, CANADIAN REP SAID, "THE UK DRAFT MAY NOT BE THE BEST WE CAN BY, BUT IT WOULD SEEM TO BE THE MOST WE ARE CAPABLE OF ACHIEVING, AT LEAST AT PRESENT."

4. USSR REP (LIKHACHEV) TOOK FLOOR TO REITERATE SOVIET POSITION ON CW, PARTICULARLY STANCE ON NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION AND CONTROL. COMMENTING ON UK DRAFT, USSR REP SAID THAT PROHIBITING PRODUCTION, AS A FIRST STEP, WHILE ALLOWING COUNTRIES TO PRESERVE THEIR STOCKPILES PLACED STATES WITHOUT STOCKPILES AT A DISADVANTAGE. HE ALSO OPPOSED ACCEPTING OBLIGATIONS UPON SIGNING BEFORE THE CONVENTION ENTERED INTO FORCE. IN CLOSING, USSR REP STATED HIS DEL'S "INTENTION TO OFFER ITS CONSIDERATIONS" ON STATEMENT IN SOVIET MEMORANDUM RE POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL CONTROL PROCEDURES AT LATER TIME.

5. FRG REP (SCHLAICH) RECORDED STATEMENT ON UK DRAFT AND EMPHASIZED FRG POSITION THAT DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND USE OF EH-CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES NOT BE HAMPERED. HE PROPOSED THAT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO "MILITARY PURPOSES" BE INCLUDED IN GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION IN ARTICLE I LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO ENSURE SANCTITY OF PEACEFUL USES OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES. FRG REP CAUTIONED COMMITTEE AGAINST NOT FULLY REALIZING THE MANY DIFFICULTIES TO BE ENCOUNTERED IN DEVELOPING AN ADEQUATE VERIFICATION SCHEME. HE POSED THREE QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BEYOND ISSUE OF VERIFYING STOCK DESTRUCTION: --HOW CAN IT BE ENSURED THAT NO CLANDESTINE STOCKS ARE RETAINED; --HOW CAN IT BE ENSURED THAT NO NEW WEAPONS ARE PRODUCED AND NO NEW STOCKS BUILT UP; AND --HOW CAN IT BE ENSURED THAT NO DUAL PURPOSE AGENTS ARE DIVERTED FROM PEACEFUL TO MILITARY PURPOSES. HE STATED THAT ON-SITE INSPECTION WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR MORE THAN JUST VERIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF STOCKS AND RESTATED FRG SUGGESTION, MADE DURING 1976 CW EXPERTS MEETINGS, THAT SUCH ON-SITE INSPECTION BE CONDUCTED BY AN INTERNATIONAL VERIFICATION BODY.

6. US REP (MEYERS) RECORDED USG COMMENTS ON UK DRAFT CONVENTION ON CW. HE STATED THAT "IN THE US VIEW, THE PURPOSE OF A CW CONVENTION WOULD BE TO SUPPLEMENT THE GENEVA PROTOCOL PROHIBITION ON USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS BY

PROHIBITING PREPARATIONS FOR USE." HE CITED EXAMPLES OF
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE CONSIDERED.
HE ASKED IF TERM "LETHAL AND OTHER TOXIC AGENTS" COVERED
INCAPACITATING AGENTS & SAID THAT US BELIEVED THESE AGENTS
SHOULD BE COVERED ULTIMATELY. US REP OPPOSED INCLUSION OF OB-
LIGATIONS IN TEXT OF CONVENTION WHICH WOULD BE BINDING PRIOR TO
ACTUAL ENTRY INTO FORCE OF TREATY & SUGGESTED THAT THESE
OBLIGATIONS BE TREATED AS CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES WHICH
WOULD BE DEALT WITH IN A SEPARATE DOCUMENT, CLOSELY LINKED TO
CONVENTION. HE ALSO OFFERED SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR HANDLING DEC-
LARATION OF STOCKS AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES. US REP SUPPORT-
ED UK PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE INCLUDED IN ARTICLE
VIII, BUT FELT IT NEEDED TO BE ELABORATED IN GREATER DETAIL.
ALSO FELT ELABORATION OF ON-SITE VERIFICATION PROCEDURES WAS
NECESSARY. IN CLOSING, US REP STATED THAT US BELIEVES THAT UK
DRAFT "REPRESENTS A BASICALLY SOUND APPROACH... WHICH COULD
GREATLY FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE CCD".
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7. NEXT PLENARY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR A.M. MARCH 31. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Sent Date: 31-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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